

Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 191245Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1272

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0286

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, ZA

SUBJECT: CHONA COMMENTS ON FUTURE OF NAMIBIA

1. IN CONVERSATION FEBRUARY 18 WITH PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR MARK CHONA ON OTHER SUBJECTS HE INDICATED HIS DIRECT CONTACTS WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER CONVINCED HIM THAT SOUTH AFRICAN LEADER GENUINELY WANTS INDEPENDENT UNITARY STATE IN THE NAMIBIA. SEVERAL TIMES HE MENTIONED VORSTER'S STATEMENT IN LONDON TIMES OF FEBRUARY 17, NOTING "HE WANTS TO GET NAMIBIA OFF HIS BACK." CHONA SAID VORSTER AT WORK REFINING FORMULA FOR SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD RECONCILE DEFACTO SOUTH AFRICAN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY OVER NAMIBIA WITH DEJURE UN AUTHORITY AND WHICH WOULD OFFER FACE-SAVING PROTECTION FOR BOTH PARTIES. CHONA SAID VORSTER HAD NOTHING PERSONAL AGAINST SWAPO'S SAM NUJOMA BUT COULD NOT SEE TURNING OVER NAMIBIA TO ONE LIBERATION MOVEMENT WHICH WOULD IGNORE OTHER REPRESENTATIVE ELEMENTS OF POPULATION HAVING RIGHTFUL CLAIMS TO VOICE IN AREA'S FUTURE.

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2. CHONA HOPED NORMAL COURSE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND SOUTH AFRICA ALLOWED FOR DISCUSSION OF NAMIBIA WHICH HAD VALUE AS DOUBLE-CHECK ON VORSTER'S SINCERITY AND REMINDER FROM GREAT POWER OF VORSTER'S PUBLIC COMMITMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS. CHONA FELT VORSTER AND HIS NATIONALISTS ALSO NEEDED BE OCCASIONALLY REMINDED THAT THERE ARE NEARLY FIVE AND A HALF MILLION WHITES LIVING PEACEFULLY WITH BLACKS IN BORDERING MAJORITY-RULED STATES OF MOZAMBIQUE, MALAWI, BOTSWANA AND ANGOLA. HE SAID SMITH SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER THIS.

3. CHONA FELT THAT IF RHODESIA'S NATIONALISTS SUCCEEDED IN FINDING A SOLUTION TO MAJORITY RULE WITHIN ONE YEAR, THIS TIMING WOULD HAVE FAVORABLE IMPLICATIONS FOR ACCELERATING FORWARD MOVEMENT IN NAMIBIA. DATE FOR MAJORITY RULE THERE SHOULD NOT BE TOO FAR OUT OF LINE WITH THAT SET IN RHODESIA.
WILKOWSKI

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